

For Immediate Release: July 30, 2008

Media contact: Eileen Force 414-286-2200

## Mayor Tom Barrett today released the following statement about the New Berlin Water Services Agreement:

"I want to acknowledge and thank Aldermen Michael Murphy, Tony Zielinski, Jim Bohl, Bob Donovan, Bob Puente, Joe Dudzik, Ashanti Hamilton, Terry Witkowski and Alderwoman Milele Coggs for their collective leadership and support of the sale of Milwaukee Water Works water to the City of New Berlin.

Today's healthy debate and vote will produce immediate benefits to the residents of Milwaukee and New Berlin. Longer term, under the guidance of Alderman Murphy, an economic study of the value of water sales will be undertaken and should provide critical information as we consider future water sales.

Water defines us. It is critical to our economy, trade, recreation, health and quality of life. Together we must work to ensure that the health and quality of Lake Michigan will not be compromised and the economic interests of our residents will be represented.

There are regional issues that continue to demand our attention. Regional public transportation, housing, workforce and infrastructure investments have to be addressed and solutions agreed upon. We must keep moving forward."